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500.41296X00/W0298-01CL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ryujiro UDO *et al.*
Serial No. : 10/083,255
Filed : 27 February 2002
For : SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING APPARATUS...
Art Unit: : 2829
Examiner : Monica D. Harrison
Conf. No. : 2556

AMENDMENT**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents
POB 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

22 September 2003

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 18 June 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application. It is respectfully noted that the Federal Government was closed in the District of Columbia on 18-19 September 2003 owing to Hurricane Isabelle, and that 20-21 September 2003 were a Saturday/Sunday.

In accordance with the revised format of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 as set forth in the Final Rule effective 30 July 2003, each section of amendment herein begins on a new page, and changes are shown by strike-through (or double brackets where appropriate) and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively. A complete listing of all claims ever presented in the application is given with the current status of each claim, and only the text of all pending and withdrawn claims is presented in full, with those not being amended herein being presented in clean version.